



2016 SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Park Interpreter: Emily

Park Phone Number: (978) 544-7745

Contact Station located at: 122 Long Pond Road, Warwick, MA 01378

All programs are free and open to the public; however, the daily parking fee is \$8 for MA vehicles and \$10 for non-MA vehicles.

Programs subject to change. Reasonable accommodations available upon request. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

The **Erving SF Nature Center** is on Camp Road between Campsites 17 and 18. The **Beachfront Interpreter Table** is located opposite the beachfront bike rack (follow the footprints from the Lifeguard Shack!).

For more information please call the park, or visit: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-central/erving-state-forest.html>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Creature Comforts: Beavers 2 – 3 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Friday Night Alive 7 – 8 pm	3 Leaf Peeping Loop 11 am – 12 pm Mucking About 1:30 to 3 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Campfire Program 7 – 8 pm
4 Secret Spots of Erving: <i>Beaver Lodge</i> 10:30 am – 12 pm Kiddleidoscope: Seasons 1 - 2 pm	5 (Labor Day) Making History: <i>Civilian Conservation Corps</i> 1 – 4 pm	6	7	8	9 Creature Comforts: Moose 3 – 4 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Friday Night Alive 7 – 8 pm	10 Leaf Peeping Loop 2 – 3 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Campfire Program 7 – 8 pm
11 Secret Spots of Erving: <i>CCC Camp</i> 9:30 am - 12 pm	12	13	14	15	16 Creature Comforts: Snakes 3 – 4 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Friday Night Alive 7 – 8 pm	17 Leaf Peeping Loop 2 – 3 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Campfire Program 7 – 8 pm

18 Secret Spots of Erving: <i>Frawley's Quarry</i> 10 am - 12 pm	19	20	21	22	23 Creature Comforts: Beavers 2 – 3 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Friday Night Alive 7 – 8 pm	24 Leaf Peeping Loop 2 – 3 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Campfire Program 7 – 8 pm
25 Secret Spots of Erving: <i>Hermit Cave</i> 9 am – 12:30 pm	26	27	28	29	30 Creature Comforts: Moose 3 – 4 pm Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 pm Friday Night Alive 7 – 8 pm	

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Nature Center Open House Friday 4:30 – 6:30 pm Saturday 4:30 – 6:30 pm	Meet the Park Interpreter at the Nature Center and learn some fascinating things about Erving State Forest. You can examine track molds, touch a beaver pelt, or even see a dinosaur footprint! We have nature guide books and pictures that parents might enjoy too. All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.
Kidleidoscope Kids	Meet at the Beachfront Interpreter Table for this 1 hour interactive story hour geared towards children ages 3 – 8 (siblings welcome). This program will introduce kids to nature with a themed story, outdoor activity, and related craft. All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.
Campfire Program	Join the Park Interpreter next to the Nature Center for a welcome campfire. Learn how to make a fire safely, sing some fun songs, or listen to a great story. The campfire is for all ages, wear suitable clothing and bring a flashlight. BYOM (Bring your own marshmallows)!
Friday Night Alive	Meet the Park Interpreter in the field across from the Nature Center for some activities before bed. We'll play games to learn about the owls and bats that live in the park, plus catch (and release) some fireflies! All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult,

	<p>but feel free to relax on the picnic tables in the field, while we run around. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Bring insect repellent and water, plus a flashlight or headlamp if desired.</p>
<p>Creature Comforts</p>	<p>Each week, we'll take a closer look at the wildlife that you might find here in Erving State Forest! These programs are suitable for children over the age of 5, and all children must be accompanied by a parent/adult. Meet at the Beachfront Interpreter Table for each of the wildlife programs below.</p> <p><u>Stellar Snakes</u>: Erving State Forest supports a variety of native snakes. Learn more about the park's non-venomous, scaly, slithering serpents!</p> <p><u>Busy Beavers</u>: Investigate the unique way beavers change their surroundings and how they affect their environment. This big, nocturnal, semi-aquatic rodent fells trees with its large front teeth to build dams on rivers and streams.</p> <p><u>Moose, Meese, Mooses</u>: It has a bell but doesn't make music. It has paddles but can't row a boat. Come learn about Massachusetts's largest deer species! Moose have been returning to the Bay State over the past century and are a joy to spot.</p>
<p>Leaf Peeping Loop</p>	<p>There's more to Erving than meets the eye. Meet at the Ranger Station near the picnic area for this ¾ mile, moderate hike along the Laurel Loop. We'll enjoy gorgeous foliage and a view of Mount Monadnock as we walk & talk about the park. This hike will take about 1 hour and is suitable for all ages capable of completing a moderate hike, with a few steep spots. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Bring insect repellent, water, and sunscreen as needed. All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.</p>
<p>Secret Spots of Erving:</p> <p>A Park Exploration</p>	<p>Erving State Forest has hosted plenty of characters over the years, from beavers to a Hermit. Learn about the many inhabitants of this picturesque park during this exploration series.</p>

Series

Beaver Lodge

Join the Park Interpreter at the **Nature Center** to meet Erving's busiest residents. We'll hike down the Salem State College Nature Trail to explore an abandoned beaver lodge and dam. Then, we'll walk a tenth of a mile down Laurel Lake Road to the current home of these sizable rodents. Along the way, we'll learn how beavers build, swim, and live! If we're lucky, we might just spot one of these fascinating creatures. The entire hike is 1.5 miles with some hiking on slippery, inconsistent surfaces; it will take an estimated 1.5 hours to complete. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Please bring plenty of water, plus insect repellent and sunscreen as needed. Reservations *suggested*; call the Ranger Station at **(978) 544 – 7745**.

CCC Camp

Meet the Park Interpreter at the **Nature Center** to peek into Erving's past. We'll hike 3 miles roundtrip to the site of a former Civilian Conservation Corps camp. The CCC (an organization created during the Depression to help employ young men) worked tirelessly throughout Massachusetts and the United States. They reforested areas, controlled invasive species, built fire roads, laid out campgrounds, and much more! The journey is moderately strenuous, with a long uphill section; it will take an estimated 2.5 hours to complete. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Please bring plenty of water and a snack, plus insect repellent and sunscreen as needed. Reservations *suggested*; call the Ranger Station at **(978) 544 – 7745**.

Erving "Castle"

Meet the Park Interpreter at the **trailhead on Mountain Road** (about 1.5 miles North of Route 2 in Erving) to visit the long-time home of Erving's Hermit, John Smith! John Smith, a native of Scotland, lived in this cave for 30 years, entertaining visitors and growing wildflowers. We'll also enjoy a scenic view from the top of Hermit Mountain. The loop is approximately 4.5 miles and moderately strenuous; it will take an estimated 3 – 4 hours to complete. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Please bring plenty of water and a snack, plus insect repellent and sunscreen as needed. Reservations *required*; call the Ranger Station at **(978) 544 – 7745**.

	<p>Frawley's Quarry Meet the Park Interpreter at the Snowmobile Parking Lot on the Moss Brook Road to explore John Frawley's Quarry. A century ago, quarryman John Frawley and his workers mined granite north of Laurel Lake. While the rock drills and explosives are long gone, you can still walk around this historic site. The entire journey is approximately 2.5 miles and moderately strenuous with some hiking on inconsistent surfaces; it will take an estimated 2 hours to complete. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Please bring plenty of water, plus insect repellent and sunscreen as needed. Reservations <i>required</i>; call the Ranger Station at (978) 544 – 7745.</p>
Mucking About	<p>Come take a peek under the surface! Meet the Park Interpreter at the Beachfront Interpreter Table to explore the bugs, tadpoles, and other water creatures of Laurel Lake. We'll use nets and buckets to observe some cool critters (making sure to put them back home at the end!). This program is suitable for all ages. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Bring insect repellent, water, and sunscreen as needed. All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.</p>

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

<p>Making History: The Civilian Conservation Corps</p>	<p>Meet the Park Interpreter at the Nature Center to celebrate Labor Day! We'll hike 3 miles roundtrip to the site of a former Civilian Conservation Corps camp. The CCC (an organization created during the Depression to help employ young men) worked tirelessly throughout Massachusetts and the United States. They reforested areas, controlled invasive species, built fire roads, laid out campgrounds, and much more! The journey is moderately strenuous with a long uphill section; it will take an estimated 2.5 hours to complete. If visitors would prefer a <i>more accessible option</i>, inform the Interpreter when calling to make a reservation. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Please bring plenty of water and a snack, plus insect repellent and sunscreen as needed. Reservations <i>required</i>; call the Ranger Station at (978) 544 – 7745.</p>
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